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JUNE, 1887.

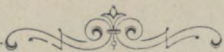
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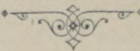
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Education for Girls

"Sex, like rank, beauty, wealth or talent is but an accident of birth. As you would not educate a soul to be an aristocrat, so do not to be a woman."—[MARGARET FULLER.]

The objective point of a girl's education should be exactly that of a boy's—mental discipline and its consequent power. The special end to which this power shall be directed will manifest itself at maturity, but should have no more to do with the basal education that is given our daughters, than that which is given our sons. Nature may be trusted to instruct her in the use of her acquirements. "Achilles had long plied the distaff as a princess, yet at first sight of a sword he seized it."

It was the old-time idea, that of education for utility alone, which so long barred woman from a liberal culture, and which, though of less gravity than heretofore, still has influence in shaping the education which is given her. Granted, that the majority of girls marry and take upon themselves domestic cares and house wifely duties. None the less—all the more, I should say,—do they need the tonic influence of the higher education. The flaw is that we do not perceive the spiritual law that mental power in one direction is mental power in another, and that the wise administration of things domestic will be incalculably furthered by the agency of a brain trained to work with method and precision by the discipline of the higher mathematics or the translation of the classics. Nothing is truer than the old truism,

"Knowledge is power"; knowledge in any direction is power in every direction.

A man's education is for *himself*, not for a prospective wife and family. A woman's education should be for *herself*; because wisdom is better than ignorance, because strength is better than weakness, because growth is better than stagnation, because she is first a human soul, then a woman soul.

I wonder if women do not make too much of the matter of sex, in their estimate of themselves. One may disagree with Margaret Fuller that sex is a mere accident of birth, believing it to rest back in the great duality of nature which is essential to its life, and yet believe that the importance of sex and its supposed limitations, is overestimated. God taught us this when he made Deborah and Miriam lawgivers and priestesses long ago, when He gave the world a Margaret of Anjou, a Joan of Arc, a Catherine of Russia. God tells us this every time he puts an exceptional woman into the world to do an exceptional work. There is a duality in creation but there is a greater primal unity in the likeness of God, and the furtherance of the great purpose of life is wrought without regard to sex.

Why should not women learn these truths once for all, that the special gift of being which makes her woman was never intended to impede her progress as a human soul, and "*Das ewig Weiblich*," (which one is almost tempted to translate as "the everlasting womanly") may be trusted to care for itself? We cannot wrong nature if we try. We shall never be able to thwart her purposes in the creation of woman. But we may underestimate them. We may fail to distinguish between that which is accidental and that which is permanent in the development of the individual soul. We may have a lesser understanding of the manifestation of the Divine in woman, and we may forget that there is but one doctrine large enough to secure the complete development of man and woman both, and that is the "doctrine of the human soul."

EPSILON.

The Evolution of the Modern Class Day

The American Class Day does not go very far back for its primal ancestor. Our colleges are devoid of the moldy traditions which lend such an interest to the past history of Oxford and Cambridge. Yet, though we are Americans, we have a secret veneration for those customs and institutions which flavor of antiquity. Let us then open the records, fresh and brief though they be, and take a look at the "Class Day of ye olden time."

Certainly the surroundings of the little college wherein were planted the first seeds of higher education, were not fitted to inspire romance. But human nature is the same under the stern garb of the Puritan, as under the scholastic mortar board of to-day. The ties of friendship were as strong and unquestionable and the pain of leave-taking as keen with students then as now. Yet it is to be doubted whether the orator of the past could dwell with sincerity on tender reminiscences of his Freshman year; for the early part of his college course was of a serious and painful nature. In addition to searching entrance examinations, there were other tasks as regards his social rank, and not until four weeks had passed was his status determined and his seat at table, at recitations and at chapel finally settled.

The rank of poor Samuel Adams was fourteen in a class of twenty-four, owing perhaps to the fact that his mother inherited but one silver spoon.

Aside from the question of their unhappy retrospect, the limited numbers of graduates up to 1704 prevented any extensive celebration of Class Day at Harvard and Yale.

In a class of two the orator and poet would have held an odious monopoly of class offices. The entertainments of our an-

cestors were of a nature such as befitted a serious minded people, and the feast of reason provided at Class Day consisted of an oration in Latin, preceded and followed by prayer. Let us hope that the students, if not the people at large, understood and were edified.

Later on, when the influence of Queen Anne's reign was felt in the colonies, the agitations of the political world were reflected in college, and life there became less heavily Puritanic in tone.

Let us picture the day as it was then. It is a sultry August morning, and though quite early, rows of wagons are pouring into the village, where stalls, booths, and tents transform the New England town into a feast of tabernacles.

The exercises of the day begin, and the program, to quote from a diary of the times, was as follows: "At ten we walked in procession to the president's, and escorted him, the professors and tutors to the chapel, preceded by a band playing solemn music. The president began with a short prayer; he then read a chapter in the Bible, after which he prayed again. A poem was then read. This was succeeded by a valedictory, Latin oration. We then marched to Cutler's room, where we shook hands and parted with expressing sincerest tokens of friendship." So concluded the diary. We have grave suspicions that late in the day a class banquet was stealthily held, for in 1722 and during the latter part of President Leverett's administration, an act was passed "for reforming the extravagance of Commencement," and providing that "henceforth no preparation nor provision of either plum-cake, or roasted, boiled or baked meats, or pies of any kind, shall be made by any commencer, under penalty of forfeiture of the provisions to be seized by the tutors."

This restriction would seem stringent enough to cover all cases, but evidently there were deceptions practiced, for four years later a vote was passed, by which those who went "about to evade the act of June, 1722, by making use of *plain* cake, were not to be admitted to their degrees." But this *material* part of the pro-

gram seems not to have been the only trouble the faculty had to deal with; the intellectual also presented some difficulties. The oration (delivered in Latin) was not adapted to work very strongly upon the feelings of a popular audience, and expressions of dissatisfaction made the orator at the close of the last century yield to the not unnatural temptation of making himself intelligible.

As a result, in 1702 the Faculty, alarmed at the tendency to molest the ancient reign of classical precedence, passed the following: "Voted—that no performance but a Valedictory in the Latin language be permitted to the Seniors on the day when they retire from college." Notwithstanding this vigorous protest from the Faculty, the progress of events showed that the demands of the people were finally met, and our Class Day orator descends to the domestic level and the more common tongue of the vernacular. Those studies which twenty years ago formed the corner stone of a college education, are now labeled "optional."

This change in the curriculum marks the final abandonment of traditions handed down from father to son for four hundred years. The worship of the modern Fetich, against which Charles Francis Adams protested so vehemently, has largely ceased, and in its place the *practical* tendencies of the age have substituted scientific research and discovery. Thus—we have lightly traced the evolution of some features of college life from their original types, and have seen the constant tendency toward a *broad*er type of culture.

The spirit of the age has grown broader; *it has become eminently democratic*. A hundred years ago, the roll call (which we have heard to-day) would have been arranged, not alphabetically, but in the order of social precedence. Even the pessimist can feel that the present age has vindicated the principles of immortal brotherhood.

Our modern Class Day has become largely a day of retrospection—a day of moral and intellectual inventory.

The change has been great, and we see as an entirety, what has been brought about by the steady advancement of successive

classes. Hence we too have a share in this evolution. To us individually the vision has changed. There has been subjective as well as objective growth, perhaps *nowhere* seen more clearly than in the change of our early ambitions. The ideal of Tom Brown at Rugby was the same in substance, although differing in form from that which many of us have cherished. "I want," said he, "to be A 1 at cricket and foot ball, and all other games, I want to get in the sixth before I leave, and to please the doctor, and I want to take away as much Greek and Latin as will carry me through Oxford respectably."

Not a very high type of ambition, but the beauty of the bud is not alone in itself, but in the promise of its fruition.

The childish ideal, were it too aspiring, would only be found an illusion, and in our lives, as well as in the life of Tom Brown, we may see the ripening of a definite purpose.

This has been brought about by *many* and *varied* influences. We have come in contact with new trains of thought, and (as diamond cuts diamond) mind has been sharpened by intercourse with mind.

Reciprocity of intellectual tastes have furnished a genial soil for that friendship which Emerson calls "the nut whereof all thought is but the husk and shell." It has exerted a certain cordial exhilaration on our active powers; more swift, more active, more cheering than fire on the material world have been these *fine inward irradiations*.

Yet far more important than any *social*, or so-called *intellectual* development, has been the evolution of self hood. In ourselves are we to find all the elements of the science of man, and in our own potencies are the possibilities of the race.

The object of our education has been not to add something from *without*, but to produce growth and power within. If it has resulted in teaching us to think broadly and independently, to have a high appreciation of principles, and a recognition of our neighbors' point of view, the evolution of the complete, roundly-moulded man has begun.

ANNA N. PADDOCK, IOTA.

The Theta Badge.

AIR: "My Nellie's Blue Eyes."

Purest gold and black like night
Are the colors on our kite,
Brightened by a bar of white,
Our K A Θ badge!
Twinkling stars in it abide,
On its face they're side by side,
Theta's onward, upward guide,
Our K A Θ Badge!
College friendship true it tells,
Knit by Theta's mystic spells.
Stronger still the chorus swells,
Our K A Θ badge!

CHO.—Our K A Θ badge!
Our K A Θ badge!
Strong is the love it bears us to,
Our K A Θ badge!

Handsome pins we often see
Others have as well as we,
Ours is best we all agree.
Our K A Θ badge!
Golden keys may open hearts;
Some may fall 'neath I. C. darts;
Highest aims the kite imparts,
Our K A Θ badge!
Anchors, too, may hold some fast
Binding to the very last,
Far above the kite soars past
Our K A Θ badge!

CHO.—Our K A Θ badge!
Our K A Θ badge!
Strong is the love it bears us to.
Our K A Θ badge!

E. E. R.

Notes from Omicron

DEAR JOURNAL:—Never before and probably never again will another of Theta's Chapters be ushered into life under circumstances similar to those attending Omicron's birth. For *mirabile dictu*—nine Thetas were in the "City of Angels" at the time:

Miss Breed, Delta, Los Angeles.

Mrs. Jennie Allen Borard, Alpha, Los Angeles.

" Bessie Eaton Hammond, Alpha, Los Angeles.

" Alice Allen Hawk, Alpha, San Fernando.

Miss Mary Courey, Alpha, Indiana.

" Mamie Ward, Alpha, Tennessee.

" Anna Cooper, Alpha, Michigan.

Mrs. Alma Holman Burton, Alpha, Nebraska.

" Anna Hollingsworth Hammond, Alpha, Indiana.

The day of Omicron's initiation found a bevy of us hailing a car which would carry us from the city to the University.

Our route lay through beautiful avenues shaded by the Eucalyptus, towering and stately, and by rows of graceful pepper trees, bright with their clusters of scarlet berries. On either side were homes beautified alike by art and nature. Now and then we would pass orange groves whose trees were fairly burdened with their golden fruit. Interspersed among them, picturesque windmills were busily whirling in the breeze, while in the distance the mountains in all their majestic grandeur were seen, forming a most beautiful background to the whole. Words fail to convey any adequate idea of the beauty of the scene. Certain it is that a fraternity meeting never led us along so fair a path before.

In the vicinity of the college grounds we alighted, and found our future Chapter awaiting us at the residence of Dr. Suisa-

baugh. Here everything was in readiness for the coming ceremonies, thanks to the untiring energy and perseverance of Mrs. Borard, wife of the President of the University, and one of Alpha's oldest daughters, and also of Miss Breed, of Delta, an instructress in the University.

As it would not be appropriate to go into details as to what followed, we will merely say that everything passed off gloriously. The afternoon was so occupied that no time remained for social intercourse—a loss which was more than recompensed by a lunch given by Mrs. Borard the following week.

Mrs. Borard is a most charming hostess, and on this occasion was ably assisted by her sister, Mrs. Hawk. The parlors, dining room and table were most tastefully decorated with Theta colors, and enthusiasm was aroused to such a height that the girls were only deterred from floating the black and gold from the house itself by a fear of what the impression produced upon innocent observers might be—Los Angeles being at that time sadly afflicted with a *small-pox* scare. Some time was spent delightfully in conversation and music, and after full justice had been done to a most tempting and elegantly served lunch, toasts of welcome were offered by Miss Breed and Mrs. Hammond, and replied to in a charming manner by Omicron's president. Everything combined to render it an occasion which will long be remembered by those present.

To say that Omicron starts out well, is certainly a mild way of stating the case. Seven members chosen from the best of four college classes, is a vigorous beginning. Though having but a short acquaintance, we predict a brilliant future for Omicron; their whole-souled enthusiasm was an unlooked for quality in so young a chapter, but it was so manifest that we left feeling that Theta colors had certainly come to U. S. C. to stay.

U. S. C. is certainly *the* college of Southern California, richly endowed and charmingly located. Already Omicron talks of building a Chapter house. Theta should congratulate herself upon so worthy an accession.

College Fraternities.

[Andrew D. White, Ex-President of Cornell, in the *Forum*.]

For half a century the "Greek-Letter Fraternities" of the American colleges have been fiercely attacked and as hotly defended. The purpose of the present article is to discuss the question whether they are mainly good or evil; and if, like most human organizations, they produce both good and evil, to show how the good may be increased and the evil diminished.

The fact upon which they all rest is expressed by the truism that "man is a social being." Bring together a thousand students, or even a score, and they will begin to arrange themselves in parties, cliques, and clubs. Social clubs, literary clubs, athletic clubs, will at once group themselves around various centers, like crystals about a nucleus. College officers may lament that students will not simply oscillate between their lodgings and lecture-rooms; but human nature is too strong: groups of some sort are inevitable.

Now, do not the fraternities reduce the evils arising out of these to a minimum, and produce some results undeniably good? The first point to be noted is, that when one of these inevitable associations takes the form of a college fraternity it must cease to be a mere temporary club. It has at once a reputation to make and maintain. It must hold its own against rival fraternities. The badge which each member wears fixes his responsibility; to be less than a gentleman is to disgrace it and to injure the fraternity. The same principle which led the hero of one of Balzac's most touching stories to lay off his badge of the Legion of Honor while suffering reproach, and to replace it upon his breast, when at the cost of his life he had retrieved his character, is, on a lower plane, active among students.

But the members of the fraternities are not only under this healthful pressure from without; they are generally under good influences from within. Very soon after a fraternity is founded it has a body of graduates sobered by the duties and experiences of life. This body very soon outnumbers the under-graduate members. These graduates naturally scan closely their brethren in the colleges, and are the first to condemn any conduct among them likely to injure the fraternity. No chapter can afford to lose the approval of its graduates: every chapter must maintain such a character that the graduate brotherhood will be willing to recommend it to younger men entering college, to send their pupils or sons into it, and to contribute to building or other expenses which would bear too heavily upon the under-graduate members.

Here is a vast difference between respectable, permanent fraternities and all temporary clubs. A typical result of the desire of under-graduate members to keep the approval of their graduate brothers is seen in the fact that intoxicating drinks have been rigorously excluded from the chapter-rooms of all fraternities I have known; frequently by the vote of under-graduates not themselves abstainers. On the other hand, it is within my knowledge that temporary clubs formed among students who have not entered fraternities—clubs having no reputation to maintain, no responsibility to any fraternity, and under no healthful influences from graduate members—have often become excessively convivial.

While college fraternities thus reduce the evils of student social groups, they can be made a very useful adjunct in college discipline. The usual chapter organization establishes a kind of solidarity between its twenty or thirty under-graduate members: all are to a certain extent responsible for each, and each for all. I know that other college officers, as well as myself, have availed themselves of this relation for the good of all concerned. More than once, when some member of a fraternity has been careless in conduct or study, I have summoned senior members of his chapter, discussed the matter confidentially with them, dwelt upon the injury the man was doing to his fraternity, and insisted that it must reform him or remove him. This expedient has often succeeded when all others had failed. The older members of various fraternities have frequently thus devoted themselves to the younger in a way which would do honor to a brother laboring for a brother. It is within my knowledge that a considerable number of young men have thus been rescued from courses which might have brought great sorrow to them and to their families.

While the fraternities have thus been made useful to individuals, they have another use to the great body of American colleges and universities as a whole. One of the less fortunate things in American advanced education is, that the various institutions of learning in the country are so separated from each other by space and sectarian bias. As a rule, each is more or less in a state of isolation. To meet this difficulty, we have, indeed, in the State of New York, a very valuable institution, the Board of Regents, which, in addition to other services, brings together, once or twice a year, representatives of all the colleges, to discuss questions of living interest and to establish personal acquaintance; but in the Union at large there is nothing akin to this. In England the two great universities are so near each other, and so near London as a center, that there is no such isolation. In Germany the universities are all within a geographical space not so large as one of our great States, and the students pass freely from one to another. Here there is almost complete isolation, and the larger college fraternities serve a good purpose in frequently bringing together members of the various institutions: graduates and under-graduates, professors and students thus meet, and so do something to create a common interest and to arouse a friendly feeling. It may not be best sort of meeting, but it is better than none.

Again, the fraternities, while reducing the evils of social gatherings to a minimum, bring out of them some positive good. The question is, Shall these gatherings be fit for gentlemen, or shall they degenerate into carousals? The advantage of the better fraternities is, that on them are various healthful restraints which hinder such degeneration. Graduate members are frequently present; they may be members of the faculty, citizens of the adjacent town, teachers visiting former pupils, clergymen visiting parishioners, fathers visiting sons; in any case, they lift the gathering into a far better region than it would probably attain without such influence.

As such old members come into a chapter session, note the places of old friends long gone, and hear the old songs sung, a flood of recollections comes in upon them. They are sure, when called upon, as they always are, to speak to their younger brethren from the heart, and few speakers are more likely to find their way to the hearts of the listeners.

And here it is proper to touch upon one of the more recent developments in the better American fraternities—the establishment of chapter houses, in which the members of a chapter have not only their hall for literary exercises, but lodgings, study rooms, library, parlors, and the like. This is, I think, a distinct advance. While giving comfortable quarters and civilizing surroundings at reasonable prices, it brings into the undergraduate mind a healthful sense of responsibility. One of the greatest difficulties with American students has risen from the fact that they have been considered neither as men, to be subjected to the laws governing the public at large, nor as boys, to be subjected to the discipline of the preparatory schools. Some of the consequences of this abnormal condition have been wretched. Place twenty or thirty students in the ordinary college dormitory, and there will be carelessness, uproar, and destruction; but place the same number of men belonging to any good fraternity in a chapter-house of their own, and the point of honor is changed; the house will be well cared for and quiet. I recently visited one of these chapter-houses after an absence of a year; the rooms and furniture were as well kept as when I left it. The reason is simple: the young occupants had been brought into a sense of proprietorship, into a feeling of responsibility for the maintenance of the property and its reputation.

Socially, too, there is an advantage. Nothing has pleased me more of late years than to see various fraternities of the better sort giving, in their chapter-houses, simple receptions and entertainments, to which not only members of faculty and town families were invited, but also the older members of other fraternities. This marks a breaking away from what to my mind has always been the main objection to these organizations, namely, the growth in many cases of a petty, narrow, contemptible clique spirit; and it indicates a recognition of the paramount relation of student to student, of man to man.

I have taken part in several such gatherings at various chapter-houses, and can think of no wiser thing that wealthy graduates can do, in testifying

kindly feeling toward their respective fraternities, than to aid in the erection and endowment of such houses, as good centers for college social and literary life.

Several times, during visits to Oxford and Cambridge, I have been asked regarding the provisions in American colleges for healthful social relations between teachers and taught, and between older and younger students. In answering, I have spoken of the chapter-houses as to some extent supplying in American universities what is given in English universities by the collegiate bodies, with their separate houses and fraternal feelings. Each system enables students to live in comfortable quarters at moderate cost, and with men interested in their purposes and anxious for their success. What Walter de Merton had in mind when he established the first of the colleges at Oxford seems to be the very thing sought for in these more humble American establishments. And when I told my questioners that the members of the fraternities living in various chapter-houses, though frequently visited in a social way by members of the faculty, were under no control in ordinary matters save their own, that no proctor or tutor lived with them, that no gate-book was kept, there was an expression of great surprise. It seemed impossible to the college officers about me, that a body of twenty or thirty under-graduates, living together in a house of their own, could thus be trusted. I answered that they could be trusted, that the trust thus reposed in them was an educating force of high value, and that I should not be sorry to see the whole body of students in the university with which I was connected divided into fraternities, each living upon the university grounds in its own house, with full responsibility for its keeping and character, and never to be interfered with until it proved its incapacity for proper self-government.

Again, a distinct purpose of these associations is culture in some worthy field of intellectual activity. If properly kept up, the exercises for such a purpose can be made useful. It has always seemed to me far wiser for college authorities to stimulate the under-graduate to profit by such opportunities than to waste time in declaiming against the fraternities altogether. It is an advantage that thus, in the midst of a small and friendly body, young men of quiet, scholarly tastes are enabled to make a beginning of literary or oratorical effort, and so to prepare themselves for efforts on a larger field, where there is more competition and less forbearance.

Finally, the recognition of these organizations by university authorities seems wise, because in this way alone can a college easily rid itself of any fraternity exercising an influence for evil.

To get rid of such, a few American institutions of learning have endeavored to drive out all the fraternities. These efforts have generally proved futile. In one of the larger institutions where such an attempt was made, fraternity badges were, for years, worn beneath the students' coats, meetings were held by stealth, and a system of casuistry was adopted by the members, when questioned by the faculty, exceedingly injurious to the

students from a moral point of view. Another result was, that these chapters thus driven into secrecy were restrained from intercourse with their graduate members and rapidly degenerated.

Still another effect was, that there being no means of distinguishing the members of any fraternity, the faculty could exercise no healthful influence upon them through their brethren. Moreover, a general repressive policy defeats its own purpose, and deprives the college authorities of the power to rid themselves of any particular fraternity that is really evil. For, when an attempt is made to drive out all the fraternities, all will stand by each other to the last. They will simply conceal their badges, and band themselves together as a wretched, occult, demoralizing power. On the other hand, if each fraternity is allowed to exist upon its merits, any one thought by a college faculty to be injurious can be easily driven out. It is one of the simplest things imaginable. I have, myself, thus driven out an old and wide-spread fraternity, which was doing injury to its members. This was done by giving a simple public statement of the reasons why young men should keep out of it. All the other organizations, and, indeed, the whole body of students, recognized the justice of the action and fully acquiesced. On another occasion, the mere threat of such a public denunciation had the effect to reform a large and influential fraternity.

And now, as to the arguments used against the fraternities. There are several entitled to careful attention. The first generally is, that they are secret. Regarding this, I think it may be justly said, that their secrecy is rather nominal than real. There are few executive officers in our larger institutions of learning who have not a fair knowledge of the interior organization and working of those with which they have to do. Their secrecy is generally nothing more than keeping from the public the motto for which their letters stand, and the direction of their literary activity. I confess myself unable to see how any question can be raised as to their right to reticence on these points. An eminent American divine, the head of one of the largest New England universities, whose wisdom and wit have delighted many of us, speaking upon this question, said: "If I unite with a dozen friends once a week for social or literary improvement, I know of no law, human or divine, that compels me to give an account of my doings to Tutor Tidball." And on this very question of secrecy, as a simple matter of fact, membership of college fraternities seems frequently to exhaust the desire of young men for entrance into secret organizations, and to keep them from entering the greater secret societies of the world at large. A bitter enemy of the great secret benevolent societies of the country once compared them to the small-pox; if this be just, entrance into the college fraternities might be considered, perhaps, as a vaccination.

Again, it is objected that the literary exercises in these chapters of twenty or thirty men stand in the way of the more important exercises of the larger open literary societies. This is, probably, to a considerable extent, true. Yet, in justice, it must be said that some other causes have

done much to weaken the large open societies. They have declined in a very striking manner at one of our greater universities, where the college fraternities have hardly had any existence; still this charge has more truth in it than any man devoted to our higher education could wish. But it is an evil which can be removed; half the lung power expended by college officers in declaiming against the fraternities would, if exercised in favor of the open literary societies, obviate it. The literary exercises of the various chapters could be made to strengthen the exercises of the open societies, becoming an introduction and preparation for them.

Again, it is said that the fraternities take part in college politics. This is true. They seem to hold a relation to college politics like that held by the guides to the mediæval municipalities. But, after all, is this not simply one form of an evil which, in some form, is, as things go at present, inevitable? Would not cliques, clubs, parties, and intrigues exercise an influence in student elections if no fraternities existed? Bring together a mere score of students in the smallest of American colleges, and party politics will be at once developed. It seems a result of our American atmosphere.

Again, it is said that the fraternities produce narrowness and cliquishness. There is enough truth in this to make it the duty of every chapter to guard against these evils. But do we not err in attributing to the fraternities what is frequently the outcome of individual character? Coming out of church, once, after hearing a clergyman preach a sermon which showed the most astounding narrowness of vision and thought, one of my neighbors said to me: "That sermon of the Rev. Mr. ——— does not surprise me. We were members of the same fraternity in college, and he regarded all students outside of it with abhorrence or contempt, just as he now regards all people outside of his sect." In this case, as in many others, narrowness was an individual characteristic which would have betrayed itself under any circumstances.

Every large college has now so many organizations of various sorts, and every student stands in so many different relations to his fellows, that cliquishness is, it seems to me, diminishing. I have found, too, in my own administration, that a little common sense ridicule poured, from time to time, upon fraternity narrowness, has a very useful effect.

But an objection is urged which surprises me much. This is that membership in organizations not open to the public takes the place of family life. This would seem an argument in favor of the fraternities. The vast majority of students at college have no family life. They are far from their homes, and a fraternity properly organized has, in more than one case, supplied perhaps the best substitute possible for the family relation. Any properly constituted chapter contains steady, thoughtful, earnest men who exercise almost a parental care over younger members. I speak from experience. An ounce of fact is worth a pound of theory. Not to mention others, how can I forget T. F. D., whom we used to speak of as "the bishop," and who would, since that, have been really a bishop had he possessed a

spark of worldly ambition? Who, in a certain Yale chapter of 1852-53, does not remember his laugh as the heartiest, his fun as the best, his scholarship as the most inspiring, his counsel as the most disinterested, and his kind, serious words of warning as the most precious?

Objection is also made on the score of expense. This objection takes two forms. First, it is said that the money given to fraternity purposes would be more useful if applied to something else. This argument goes a great way. It is equally good against eating a sweet potato or an oyster. Strictly adhered to, it would reduce each of us to a certain number of ounces of the plainest food that would maintain life. It is equally cogent against the wearing of anything save the roughest and most serviceable fabrics. Pictures, engravings, beautiful books, works of art, would be equally under the ban. It can be used with killing effect against a ministerial tea-party, or an alumni dinner; against the great majority of church bells and steeples; indeed, against every sort of edifice for religious purposes save an oblong box with square windows. Methinks I hear a voice: "Why was not this ointment sold for three hundred pence and given to the poor?" but I hear, also, that other utterance, "Man shall not live by bread alone."

But the objection on the score of expense is stated in another way, which seems to me entitled to more careful consideration. It is said that students have sometimes been led into an outlay for social gatherings, chapter-houses, and the like, which they could ill afford. Here is certainly a point where every fraternity ought to be on its guard. All Americans are interested in keeping down any tendency to extravagance in our institutions of learning. Such tendencies do exist both within and without the fraternities, and they ought to be fought at every point. So far as they exist within the fraternities they are simply bubbles upon the stream of American life. College life has been made somewhat more luxurious, just as home and hotel life have, but not, on the whole, to so great a degree, save in one or two of the greater institutions, which are powerfully influenced from neighboring luxurious cities. The colleges and universities more remote from the cities are by no means luxurious. Still, constant effort should be made in the fraternities to keep expenses down. The social gatherings should be made simple, the chapter-houses, while roomy and comfortable, should not be extravagant; building committees should bear in mind that two-thirds of the "Queen Anne" and other decorations lavished upon houses will within twenty years be thrown into the rubbish heap. Wealthy graduates should do what they can to provide for their respective chapters suitable houses, and, when this is done, scholarship endowments, which would diminish the expenses of members of small means. This done, the fraternities could justly boast that they diminish under-graduate expenses rather than increase them. It is a fact within my knowledge that, owing to contributions of this sort, life in some of the fraternity houses is cheaper than life of a similar sort outside.

But there is a duty here for college officers. It has been my practice, during my entire executive connection with Cornell University, to have at the beginning of every year a simple "public talk" with the entering class—a sort of free-and-easy discussion of college life, with indications of some things best to do; and some things not best. I have always cautioned these youths regarding the college fraternities, advising them not to be in haste to enroll themselves, to look closely at the men with whom they would be thus associated, and to count the cost. I have thought this wiser than to indulge in general denunciations, which leave the student just where he was before, since he regards them as purely conventional, professional, goody-goody, Sunday-school talk, and very rarely takes them into account in shaping his course.

And finally, it is said that a number of the most venerated officers of American colleges have declared against the fraternities. This is true; but it is quite as true that just as many venerated officers have declared against other things in the development of the American university system which have been established in spite of them, and which have turned out to be blessings. Perhaps one trouble with these excellent men is that they are so venerable. There is no step in the progress of colleges and universities that has not been earnestly opposed on apparently cogent grounds by most worthy collegæ officers. While the objections to college fraternities have come from some of the best men in our country, I think that it will be found that, as a rule, they have never known the better fraternities save from the outside. Their arguments seem based entirely on theory; and nothing is more misleading than a *a priori* argument regarding institutions. In such a way republican government and every form of association into which men have grouped themselves, religious or political, have been argued down. The true question is, are the fraternities as a fact, under all the circumstances of the case, more powerful for evil than for good? My contention is that they reduce certain inevitable evils in college life to a minimum, that they produce good in many ways, and that, when college authorities deal with them in a large-minded spirit, they can be made to do still more good.

Editorial

AGAIN it becomes the pleasing duty of the KAPPA ALPHA THETA to chronicle the birth of a new chapter, Sigma, recently organized at the University of Toronto. Although it is, as yet, small in members, there is every prospect for a strong and successful chapter. We are proud to step across the line and give the grip to our Canadian sisters.

The granting of this charter marks a decisive step in our fraternity history. The "black and gold" has passed beyond the limit of the United States; one phase of the question of extension has been definitely settled. To what extent it may be wise to pursue this policy, the future must determine, but we venture to predict that KAPPA ALPHA THETA will flourish as vigorously upon Canadian soil as she has always done with us.

IN several of our exchanges we find the statement that the KAPPA ALPHA THETA convention, held recently at Hanover, sanctioned the admission of honorary members. There is no foundation whatever for such a report. Although it has not been the policy of the fraternity to encourage the admission of honorary members, it has never been forbidden. There has been, however, so deeply rooted a prejudice against it, that during our entire history not one has ever been elected. KAPPA ALPHA THETA has chosen to rely entirely upon the merits of her *bona fide* members, and has been consistently careless of the prestige a few illustrious names give—even if they have been added to the roll for that reason alone.

The mistake probably arose from the wording of an editorial

in reference to that action of the convention which made the alumnae of colleges in which chapters of Kappa Alpha Theta are established, eligible to membership in those chapters. This is in no way akin to honorary membership. The alumnae taken in under this provision are full members, pledged to all the duties, and entitled to all the privileges of under-graduates.

AMONG the tidings from our various chapters, there is none that speaks more plainly of hearty interest in fraternity work than the movement on the part of our hitherto homeless chapters towards securing fraternity halls. No chapter should consider itself entitled to rest from its efforts until this has been done. The advantages are sufficient to outweigh any pecuniary sacrifice it may entail. Any chapter that has ever suffered from the inconvenience of "boarding around" can testify to the truth of the assertion. A regular place of meeting will insure more regular attendance, better work, greater interest; you will have much more privacy and more real enjoyment; your alumnae will know where to find you. It places your chapter upon a firmer footing in every way.

There is another view, perhaps not so practical, but of equal importance.

The home feeling which is fostered by a hall supported at your own expense, enriched by your liberality, and endeared through years of varied experience, is a valuable adjunct to an ardent fraternity spirit. There is something about having one's shrine definitely located, one place about which so many associations cluster—a Theta home to whose familiar precinct memory longingly turns throughout the years of after life. The alumna returning loses half the feeling of strangeness that the presence of new faces and utter absence of the old, occasions.

It is all nonsense to say you can not afford a hall. The expenditure can easily be regulated to suit your pocket books

Get a small room—a little care will discover one in a good location, to which others may be added in time—and furnish it simply, in no case going into debt. Make a beginning and bequeath the good work to your successors. They will enjoy ornamenting the rooms themselves much better than paying your debts. Much will be done by individuals. Chairs and tables and pictures will become eloquent with the feeling that has gone into them, and your hall will acquire a value money alone could not give, for,

“In it are enshrined
The precious keepsakes, into which are wrought,
The giver’s loving thoughts.”

APROPOS of this same question, what are our chapters doing in the way of preserving memoirs of their chapter life? Is your historian’s record a faithful one? Often incidents occur of direct bearing upon the fraternity, which yet would not come within the scope of the regular minutes. The little time required to write up in a concise form all such, can scarcely be spent to better advantage. So much matter of real importance is thus preserved which else, in the swiftly changing circle of membership, would soon be entirely lost. An exchange, sometime since, in telling the story of an old scrap-book, makes a suggestion so practical and simple that some of our sisters may be glad to avail themselves of it, and we give it as it was given there. The book mentioned had been begun by the writer in his college days, and contained a heterogeneous collection of clippings, notices, programs, invitations, menu cards, *et cetera*—everything, in short, of interest from a college or fraternity standpoint. A moment’s thought will convince any one, no matter how little of an antiquary she may be, how invaluable such a collection would become in the course of years. It would be of itself a fragmentary history, much of which could never be obtained from any other source. One can imagine how the gray-haired alumna, peering through

her spectacles as she turns the pages, would enjoy it; and to the youngest initiate it would have all the flavor of a bit of family history or old family letters. Nothing which serves to make the fraternity in all its associations a more real, living, breathing thing is too slight to receive attention. A little care and thought in the present will bring in rich returns for the future.

In this issue we have reprinted from the *Forum*, the article upon *College Fraternities*, probably the most able defense ever made of college secret societies. Its arguments have received added weight from the fact, that one who has been a member of such a fraternity, and has also held the highest position in college authority, must certainly be thoroughly acquainted with the ground he covers. Every Theta, who has not already done so, should read the article carefully. The subject is treated more especially from the standpoint of a gentleman's fraternity, but much of it applies with equal force to ours. We would call especial attention to the remarks upon the influence of alumni, the chapter-house system, and the regulation of expense.

We were particularly interested in the discussion of chapter-houses, as it is a question that has been vigorously agitated during the past few months by some of our chapters. Two of the most enterprising of these are prosecuting the scheme with a vigor that argues well for their ultimate success. Others have effected a sort of compromise between defeat and success by adopting the more feasible plan of securing rooms in the same house. Some of the advantages of closer intimacy have thus been secured, while the difficulties attendant upon the erection and maintenance of a house have been avoided.

Whether the plans of our under-graduates have not been definite enough to win the approval of the alumnae, or whether there have not been those continued and wisely directed efforts necessary to secure their attention, is a matter of conjecture.

Certain it is, that the alumnae as a body, have shown but little interest in the matter. And without their support the undertaking is a formidable one to girls whose education unfortunately is not always such as to develop any remarkable business ability, and who do not possess the entire confidence of those having authority over them in this respect.

But ignorance is by no means incapacity. The responsibility a chapter house imposes upon each inmate is an excellent thing in every way. Our sisters will rise to the emergency—as they always do—and be the more self-reliant and able for their experience. The objections urged against a girl's chapter-house from a social standpoint, are too absurd to deserve a moment's notice. A matron will easily be found—probably a relative of one of the members—who would be a guarantee for *les convenances*. The feeling that the reputation of the fraternity is at stake, would be of itself a sufficient restraint upon any undue waste of time. The influence of the more studious and cultured members would be quickly felt. In the constant intercourse with minds largely centered upon the same duties and ambitions lies much of the pleasure and profit of college life. This charm is yet further enhanced in the chapter-house, whose inmates have been drawn together by a certain congeniality of spirit and are closely bound by a secret tie. If, as is often stated, there are not the same reasons why we should have chapter-houses, as well as our brother fraternities, there are others equally cogent. All credit to the pioneers who first succeed in the undertaking.

To those of our cotemporaries who occasionally take the trouble to glance through our pages, some slight explanation in regard to the exchanges and chapter correspondence—which were evidently prepared for an earlier issue—is due. The matter for a June number was ready for publication, when circumstances—which have been explained to our chapters but are of no particular interest to outsiders—threw the publication so far into the summer that it was not deemed advisable to issue it until September. For this reason our regular fall issue will follow closely on the footsteps of this one.

Exchanges.

The initial number of volume eight of *The Shield*, appears under the policy of a salaried editor. C. H. Van Cleve has been again summoned to the quill, and is dealing out to the Phi Kappa Psi in full gospel measure. The general tone of the magazine is perhaps somewhat more conservative than heretofore. The leading departments are essentially as follows: Leading articles, Areopagus, Editorials, Chapter Letters, Spirit of Fraternity, Press, Fraternity and College, Notes and Miscellany. The Exchange Department has been discontinued, and Spirit of Fraternity Press revived. Under this head is given a sort of an epitome of the discussions of topics of general fraternity interest. The editor admirably admonishes the corresponding secretaries, and entreats them to haul down their dust-colored rhetorics and to make use of the English dictionaries upon their right and left. In conclusion adding eleven specific points for the guidance of the erring. The May number meets with a full response of long, newsy and entertaining chapter letters. The remaining portion of the number is principally absorbed by reports from the several district councils, which seem to have been conducted with enthusiasm and understanding of purpose.

The March issue of *The Key* scarcely maintains its usual standard, being somewhat swallowed up by productions which besides being out of place in a fraternity journal, are decidedly weak from a literary point of view. In the course of a sketch of "New Orleans Cemeteries," about half a page is absorbed in relating that during the week previous, two young men about eighteen years of age and of respectable appearance were discovered stealing brass-headed screws from the tablets upon the tombs, and that the penalty was four days' work, a bullet wound and ten years' imprisonment. Now we leave it to the good judgment of *The Key* as to whether this would not appear to greater advantage in the crime column of a morning newspaper? The article, "Transition," is a flow of pretty words, all to no purpose. "Thoreau's Experience at Walden," and "Chapter Independence" are very readable and of general interest. The latter especially commends itself to one's common sense. The editorials and exchanges are both excellent.

The *Scroll* for March opens with "Historical Notes" by a Phi of '63. He gives an interesting account of Phi Delta Theta during the late war, and of the circumstances attending the adoption of the Phi badge; and shows that

frat. loyalty is not of college life alone, but grows in strength as the years roll on. The same number contains a very entertaining little ghost story, and we should like to know whether the "paralyzed" sentinel was one of the brave-hearted Phis or not. We agree most emphatically with the editor's statement that "there is little incentive to a man's working for his chapter if he is stared in the face with the possibility of the chapter he loves some day being unnamed, unhonored and unknown," and think that chapters in every fraternity should be named in the order of their founding, and that each should retain its title as long as any member of that chapter may be found. The incidents concerning veteran Phis, and the chapter letters, which latter form the greater part of the *Scroll*, are newsy, and with out doubt, full of interest to all Phi Delts.

The *Purple and Gold* devotes considerable space to biographical sketches of the strong members of X Ψ in former years. We wish more would adopt this plan, for thus each one in the fraternity may become acquainted with those who have been loyal brothers in chapters other than his own. In the April number are cuts of several X Ψ homes. Four are evidently elegant, roomy houses, yet we venture to give as our opinion that more, if possible, of X Ψ vim and spirit found vent in the little cabin than in the luxurious and conventional dwelling.

As to making the *Purple and Gold* a thoroughly conservative magazine, we do not approve of it. Such policy has always seemed to us rather cold and selfish. Moreover, we will be sorry to miss the *Purple and Gold* from our exchange table, as it ranks among the best of our exchanges, and is filled with matter of interest to every Greek. We sincerely hope X Ψ will alter its decision on this point, yet in either case we assure X Ψ of the best wishes of KAPPA ALPHA THETA.

While we admire, on the whole, a certain degree of fraternity enthusiasm, loyalty and pride, we can but depreciate the profuse self-audulation prevailing the March number of *The Arrow*, I. C. "To thine own self be true if thou the truth wouldst teach." The editorials are chiefly on I. C. policy. Honorary membership is considered as having a "down-dragging tendency," and as "an excuse for shoddy admissions." Discussions appear under Open Letters, recommending the additions of Π Β Φ to the I. C. pin, and encouraging literary work. A few exchanges are brightly and favorably reviewed. The personals are interesting, and chapter letters mainly fair.

A chapter of Delta Gamma has recently been established at the University of Iowa. The present membership of the fraternity is quoted at three hundred and sixty-one.

The October and January numbers of the $\Delta K E$ *Quarterly* fully sustain the reputation the *Quarterly* has long enjoyed, of being the ablest of all Greek publications. "THE FIRST GREEK LETTER FRATERNITY" is a prominent feature of the October issue, and has received wide-spread notice. From the "IDEAL GREEK LETTER SOCIETY" we quote the following, to which we are sure every Theta will subscribe:

"The Greek Letter Society is no artificial creation formed on the lines of a theory or dream, but a steady growth from a little seed that has proved itself a center of perennial life."

And again, in regard to our *Greek* character: "It might be enough to say, in justification of our Greek name, that our Society has its foundation and life in education; and that education, as understood by the civilized world to-day, is a Greek conception. But our answer goes further. The Greek Letter name is a symbol of what is most precious in the association, in its origin and history, in its spirit and purpose. * * The Greek motto declares that all we are, and all that greater which we hope to be, is a growth from a seed planted long ago; and we do not believe the beauty or the vigor of the flower of to-day is best cherished by cutting it off from its root in the past. Not that all the past of civilization was Greek, nor that all that was Greek was good, beautiful and true. But in seeking for a symbol of the culture to which we aspire, we are entitled to an ideal; and, taking the Greek mind and life in their prime, selecting their noblest features and leaving all else, we find there such an ideal as is not offered elsewhere in the annals of mankind. Shall not the members of a Greek Letter Society be tolerant of an effort to justify this ideal, even if it savors of enthusiasm?"

In the January number we find a valuable article upon GREEK Letter Clubs," an interesting account of the X Γ convention, and the exchanges and reviews which the *Quarterly* metes out annually.

(Apropos of Kappa Alpha Theta as well as the $\Delta K \Sigma$, we quote:) "The alumnus did not lose his interest in his society when he left college, but in most instances he continued to be deeply interested in its success, and found its reunions more attractive than any of the other exercises of Commencement week. We all know how much, as college boys, we treasured the friendly advice and cordial encouragement which the alumni of our societies gave us as they returned from time to time to our society rooms. We were proud of their records and distinguished success in life, and joyfully hailed them as our elder brothers. There is no longer any room for doubt that, in more instances, the Greek Letter Societies form far the strongest bond between the alumnus and the actual college life of his alma mater; in many instances it is the only bond. The alumnus is sure that whatever else has passed away or changed he will receive a hearty greeting from his younger brothers in the old fraternity rooms.

Fraternity Notes.

But three fraternities are represented at Johns Hopkins—Phi Kappa Psi, Beta Theta Pi, Delta Phi.

The biennial convention of Delta Gamma was held in Cleveland, March 29, 30, 31.

The *Purple and Gold* of the Chi Psi will no longer exchange with other fraternity magazines.

Beta Theta Pi has revived her Miami chapter, the mother chapter of the fraternity.—*Ex.*

Out of 140 students at the University of the South, 100 are members of Greek Letter Societies.—*Ex.*

Six fraternities have already obtained a footing in the University of Alabama. They are Sigma Nu, Phi Delta Theta, Kappa Alpha, Sigma Alpha Epsilon, Delta Kappa Epsilon, Alpha Tau Delta.

The University of Virginia chapter of Beta Theta Pi, once among the best, is now reduced to one man.—*Rainbow.*

Since the University of Texas was opened in 1883, seven fraternities have established chapters there—Kappa Alpha, Phi Phi Delta Theta, Sigma Chi, Sigma Alpha Epsilon, Beta Theta Pi, Kappa Sigma, Sigma Nu.

Delta Tau Delta has so legislated as to prohibit forever the contemptible practice of lifting members from other Greek fraternities. All other fraternities should follow in this.—*Alpha Tau Omega Palm.*

Dr. McCosh, President of Princeton, claims that the expulsion of secret societies from Princeton has been followed by a marked improvement in the conduct of the students.

A number of students of Allegheny College, having been refused a charter by several Eastern fraternities, have at last received a charter from Sigma Alpha Epsilon.—*Phi Gamma Delta Quarterly.*

The Sigma Phi Fraternity has lately emerged from its reserve to institute a chapter at Lehigh University, the first new chapter it has founded since 1885, it is said.—*Phi Kappa Psi Shield.*

Chapter Correspondence

ALPHA.

De Pauw University, Greencastle, Ind.

Alpha chapter sends greeting to her sisters.

The college year is almost over, and as we review with you the record of the various chapters, we cannot but be elated over Theta's campaign—the success of her many ventures, and the brilliancy of her career. Long live Theta!

Our year at De Pauw is almost unprecedented in its success. One of the greatest social events of the season was the reception given Kappa Alpha Theta during the spring vacation by Dean Bowman, of the school of Theology. We were well represented in entertainments given by the Phi Psis and the Phi Delts. Both these fraternities have splendid halls and receive elegantly. We could mention many other minor events, but time prevents, as also your patience.

Recently the Senior party, the social event of every college year, was given. The President and his lady received, aided by their daughter, one of our first members. The entertainment was stately in the extreme, and when we tell you that out of the six lady graduates of '87, Theta has four, need we say that we claim much of the honor attendant upon the last social event of the class? Many of our other members, besides our Seniors were present.

Although the near approach of Commencement week fills our hearts with sorrow as we think of parting with our loved sisters, yet so much of joy surrounds us in our chapter's prosperity that we must needs rejoice with those rejoicing, and with Kappa Alpha Theta in general wish that peace and prosperity may forever attend us all.

BETA.

Indiana University, Bloomington, Ind.

Upon me devolves the honor of writing the chapter letter from Beta, and I would be disloyal to my Sophomorical reputation if I should for a moment consider myself unfitted for the post.

I shall preface my train of original remarks by saying that we Greeks have had a prosperous year. We have achieved no brilliant success, but our record is good in every respect.

We are looking forward to our annual banquet, which will take place June 3rd. For that night, at least, we will drive away all thoughts of the coming separation, and endeavor to make the occasion as joyous as possible. We would have no shadows mar the recollections of this banquet, the last in all human probability at which we shall *all* ever be present. Who can tell how many missing faces there will be when Commencement again rolls around?

All join in a loving greeting to our distant sisters.

DELTA.

Illinois Wesleyan University, Bloomington, Ill.

The term opened with bright prospects for Delta, whose enthusiasm shows no signs of abating, notwithstanding the "spring fever" and the measles, which are now holding sway. We have taken in no new members this term and probably will not before next year. Last year Ella Laudon was added to our circle. She is a true and loyal Theta of whom we are justly proud.

Thursday evening the Kappa Kappa Gamas gave a reception at the elegant residence of Miss Emily K. Beach, to which our girls were invited. The evening was delightfully spent and will long be remembered by those present.

A short time ago, under the auspices of the Phi Gamma Delta fraternity, Prof. Ridpath, of De Pauw, who is a member of that fraternity, delivered a lecture here on "Alexander Hamilton," which was a great treat to all who heard it. After the

lecture, the Phi Gamma Deltas with their lady friends, adjourned to the W. C. T. U. parlors, where the remainder of the evening was pleasantly spent in banqueting and in making the acquaintance of their illustrious guest.

Prof. Ridpath is well known, by hearsay at least, to all Thetas as the father of the young lady who founded our order. You may be sure the Thetas who were present that evening were glad of the opportunity to meet him.

Thursday evening, May 5th, the Inter-State Oratorical contest was held in Bloomington, and a banquet was given to the delegates and contestants the next evening. Both were very enjoyable and are described at length elsewhere.

In the near future the pleasant home of Mattie Myers is to be the scene of a "May Musicale," given by the Thetas, for which much preparation is being made, and to which all the girls are looking forward eagerly.

Delta is awaiting impatiently the next number of the *Kappa Alpha Theta*, which is always hailed with joy.

EPSILON.

Wooster University, Wooster, Ohio.

As it is always best in beginning a literary effort, to make an original remark, I shall say that the weather is true May weather, and when I add to that the assurance that we are prospering, and that the faculty encourage the efforts of the students to have a good field day, I think all will agree with me that "everything is lovely and"—the rest is not classic—in Wooster.

Wooster is at her gayest just now. The seniors are preparing for examinations, the athletes for field day, and last, but not least, several fraternities are making preparations for a grand banquet. The Phi Gams held a convention on the thirteenth day of May, and gave the most elaborate banquet given here for years. The Thetas were well represented.

We shall soon lose two of our most active members: One, Miss Johnson, a graduate, expects to start for Germany the middle of next month; the other, Miss Lehman, is going to spend several months in the east. We lose two others this year by graduation and we shall feel their loss keenly. Hoping that all the members of Theta will spend a pleasant vacation, we close the last letter for this college year.

LAMBDA.

University of Vermont, Burlington, Vt.

The journal's call for a letter comes at a time so uneventful that there is but little news to send.

Since our last communication, we have taken in no new members, but have been called upon to mourn the loss of one. With a courage and devotion you will all appreciate, we heroically stifled our regret and made the evening before her departure an occasion for merry-making. And we must confess that of all the splendid times we have had in our hall this year, that banquet was the best. One hardly knew which to appreciate most, the good things which the feast on the table provided, or the good things in the feast of reason and flow of soul that followed. We feel that we did all that we could to smooth the path of our departing sister, and we were ourselves somewhat cheered by the thought of her return in the fall.

The time is not far distant when we must all separate for the coming vacation, and in view of that fact we are making the most of our pleasant meetings. The thought of separation is the only thing this year to mar our pleasure in the approaching Commencement—the annual examinations have been abolished.

As far as our chapter life is concerned, it is with feelings of mingled regret that we close a year of such undivided happiness, yet we venture to hope that succeeding ones may be the same.

Best wishes for our sister chapters.

KAPPA.

Kansas State University, Lawrence, Kansas.

Kappa's history since the last issue of the KAPPA ALPHA THETA has not been particularly eventful. But one addition has been made to our ranks. Kate Merrill, after an absence of two years—during which time she has been studying music in New York city—has resumed her work in the University. We have also pinned our colors upon May Haskell, daughter of the late Hon. Dudley Haskell. She is the fifth pledged member for this year.

The Opera House has been rebuilt, and the nickname of "Greek Castle," which has been given it, seems certainly appropriate. Four fraternities now find homes in it—Phi Kappa Psi, Beta Theta Pi, Phi Delta Theta and Sigma Chi.

There has been an unusual amount of enthusiasm over baseball this spring. The game between the faculty and Seniors attracted the most attention of all that were played. Nobly as the faculty acquitted themselves, the Seniors came off victorious. The championship of the inter-fraternity league was finally won by the Phi Psis, but they were crowded very closely by the Phi Deltas.

The last of our open meetings was one of the most enjoyable we have had this year. All of our "old" girls, as well as the pledged members and active chapter, assembled to hear the address upon "Scenes from Washington Life," delivered by Mrs. Dudley Haskell. Her long residence in Washington and intimate knowledge of the ins and outs of society life made her description most vivid and of particular interest to the girls. The customary "spread," conversation, and Theta songs detained us until the gathering twilight gave warning of the time for departure.

Our alumnae still continue to evince a highly satisfactory interest in us. The appearance of our hall is greatly improved by our handsome new chandelier, the gift of Mrs. Ora (Good)

Rankin; also by a beautiful plaque from Carrie (Hastings) Fletcher. Practical and highly appreciated remembrances in the shape of generous cheques have come from Kate Ridenour and Fannie Pratt. We think these absent Thetas can hardly realize how we are cheered and strengthened by their thoughtful kindness, and what an inspiration comes from the knowledge that they are still as much interested in our welfare as we ourselves. One of our Seniors, Ella Ropes, has anticipated the time when she, too, will be "lost to sight, to mem'ry dear," and has presented us with an elegant water set.

Among Commencement festivities the fraternities will play a conspicuous part. Kappa Alpha Theta leads off, June 1st, with a large reception at the home of Sydney Daily. About one hundred and fifty invitations have been issued. The Phi Gams will give a large party June 3. The same night the Sigma Nus entertain their friends. The I. Cs. and Betas follow, and the Phi Psis and Phi Delts close the lists, June 8.

The total number of students graduating from the different departments is larger this year than ever before, and a most interesting Commencement is expected. Two of our girls will graduate, one of whom, Luella J. Moore, has been elected president of the day for Class Day. One of our post-graduates, Mary E. Wilder, will also take another degree.

We will only lose one of our Seniors, as Ella Ropes will return next fall to take post graduate work. It is with heavy hearts, however, that we say farewell to Luella Moore, who has always been one of our most active and efficient workers—a whole-souled Theta in every way.

Our prospects for next year are very encouraging, and we hope to return after the long vacation, ready and able to maintain the standing our chapter has held ever since the first day that THETA entered our university.

MU.

Alleghany College, Meadville, Pa.

Thus far this term we have been very prosperous, and our fraternity spirit is ever on the increase.

We have three Seniors this year: Mattie Wilkinson, essayist of her class, Ella Graef, president, and Harriet Reitze, who would not accept an honor, as she graduates unexpectedly this year and has quite heavy work.

We have made a number of improvements in our room this term and now look forward eagerly to commencement time when our alumnae shall bestow upon us the praise which we feel we well deserve.

One of our girls, Mary Fishburn, of Brownsville, Pa., who left college last fall on account of ill health, was married a short time ago to John A. Wood, '86, of Pittsburg, Pa.

There has been a new fraternity started, a chapter of Sigma Alpha Epsilon, which has a very favorable outlook for so young a fraternity.

There are rumors of a chapter of Kappa Kappa Gamma being founded here, which we hope will prove true, for we feel that competition is the only thing Mu lacks.

Phi Delta Theta will give a reception very soon, to which our girls are invited. We anticipate a delightful time, as the Phis have long since established a fine reputation for entertaining.

Best wishes to all sisters.

NU.

Hanover College, Hanover, Ind.

This year's work is drawing to a close. It has been both a pleasant and profitable one for Nu.

Thus far we have initiated but one new member, Lillie Kirwin. She is a girl of rare accomplishments, and is a valuable addition to our number.

At the meeting of the Board of trustees of Hanover College, arrangements were made for a Department of Music. Laura Palmer, one of our members, has been chosen as instructress. She is an excellent musician and is well qualified for filling the place.

One of the receptions that Nu has arranged to give every month, was held June 1st. The weather was very disagreeable, but that did not prevent our friends from being present.

We anticipate a grand time this commencement. One of our best and brightest girls, Eva Fitzgerald, will graduate. She has always been one of our best workers, and her absence will be greatly felt.

We expect our new professor at the opening of the fall term.

We were very much interested in Cornell's plan of "not rushing." Although it has never been necessary to do much rushing here, we think it would be an excellent thing to have such a rule. Owing to the Prep. Law of our College, no fraternity can initiate any below Freshmen. This avoids the rush to a limited extent.

The fact that Lawrence has been chosen as the editorial office of another Greek Journal shows that Kappa Alpha Theta was wise in her selection. There seems to be something in the Kansas atmosphere peculiarly favorable to fraternity publications.

We were much pleased with Epsilon's account of the convention and the visit to Greencastle.

Nu sends love to all the chapters.

OMICRON.

University of Southern California, Los Angeles, Cal.

We Omicrons have been looking over the April number of KAPPA ALPHA THETA, enjoying the reports of sister chapters and rejoicing in the fact that we too have a right to the "black and gold." Though our chapter is young and we are as yet undisciplined in fraternity matters, yet we are sure we possess the true Theta spirit. Our chapter consists of fourteen members. As yet we are alone in our glory, being the only Greek chapter in Southern California, but, judging from appearance, we have reason to believe that the Delta Gammas are making preparations to establish a chapter here.

Since our organization, March 3d, we have held regular meetings once in two weeks, and have held two "spreads." The first was given soon after our initiation by Mrs. President Borard, a member of Alpha chapter, on which occasion we were honored with the presence of five sisters from Alpha chapter and one from Delta chapter, who taught us how to enjoy a "spread" in true Theta style. The second was given by one of our own chapter at our last meeting, to celebrate the initiation of two new members. Being inexperienced in the management of the goat we found it a little unruly, but managed finally to get control of it, and after the ceremony put it into good humor again by feeding it sumptuously. On this occasion we initiated Miss Ida Lindley, professor of Latin in our University, who is an alumna of Wesleyan.

We are very glad to be welcomed among you, and we hope soon to make the acquaintance of sister chapters through correspondence.

PI.

Albion College, Albion, Michigan.

From the Peninsular State Pi chapter sends her first greeting to KAPPA ALPHA THETA.

During the weeks that have intervened since her advent into the world of Kappa Alpha Theta, the six happy, happy girls comprising her chapter members have been literally treading on air, and sending forth in every direction their glad paeans; and indeed, we have even set the wise old proverb, Patience and Perseverance accomplish all things, to a merry tune and have been singing it, right joyously, morning, noon and night.

We feel that we have abundant reason for our gladness, for after many months of earnest effort, after many a low tapping, tapping at Theta's door, it has at length been opened unto us; across the border line of States, into fair Michigan, the "black and gold" has come. Within our hands a standard of Thetaism has been placed, and we trust none will be found more faithful among its many followers than we.

Perhaps a few words regarding the struggle that led ultimately to the establishment of chapter Pi will not be amiss, and perchance, they may be of interest to some of our sister chapters.

Very nearly two years have come and gone since a few of our college girls, realizing the growing need that existed in our institution for a first-class Greek fraternity for ladies, banded themselves together and applied for a chapter of Kappa Alpha Theta; but, alas, it was our fate to be disappointed, our humble little petition was refused. Nothing daunted, however, we pressed forward; if we were not to be permitted to follow in Kappa Alpha Theta's honored footsteps, we would follow in those of none. As "Sigma Thetas," "Daughters of Sappho," we would be pioneers, and break the ground for a new fraternity.

But, hardly had we become firmly established, scarcely had the first furrow been turned, when suddenly the clouds above us rolled away, disclosing to our bewildered vision their inevitable silver lining. Though the exertion of Kappa chapter the veto had been withdrawn. Then came to us the joyful tidings that Kappa Alpha Theta, in convention assembled, had granted a charter to Albion. The news was kept profoundly secret, for it

is a well founded belief here, as well as elsewhere, that girls *simply cannot keep a secret*. With countenance as inscrutable as that of the Sphinx, bearing, it may be, an additional tinge of sadness, we went our way, quietly. No one guessed it; no one dreamed it, until suddenly, upon the fraternity horizon dawned the black and gold. Our sex was forever redeemed.

We were especially gratified when we learned that our initiation was to be in charge of Miss Mina Fallass, of De Pauw, one of our college alumnae, well known to us all. At her hands the trying ordeal seemed robbed of half its terrors. Our initiation followed soon upon the granting of our charter, and now, standing as we do just over the threshold, almost overwhelmed by the mystery surrounding us, we desire to return our sincere thanks for the many kind words of welcome that have been extended us.

A word as to our future outlook. Chapter Pi enters upon her career beneath skies serenely fair; financially and socially she is in a flourishing condition. A prospective hall will very soon become a happy reality, and, as three of our girls are good artists, and all more or less æsthetically inclined, many are the bright plans under way for beautifying the shrine of our Penates.

We have already had one initiation, our candidate being Miss Emma Southworth, an alumna, who was to have been a charter member, but unfortunately she could not be present at the time our chapter was formed. Of course we indulged in a "spread," at which it became plainly manifest that all were true disciples of Pi-e.

Two of our girls, Annie Stevens and Rose Oldman, will graduate this year with high honors. Miss Stevens is already a conservatory graduate, and for the past year has occupied the position of tutor in Greek and Latin. She is also president of one of the literary societies. Miss Olive Hull, another member, has been elected to the place of honor on the annual exhibition of the Erosophian Society, which occurs during Commencement week.

Our chapter is also well represented upon the board of managers of *The Pleiad*, our college monthly, two of our girls filling the only editorial position open to ladies this year. A Commencement reception and banquet are already being discussed by our girls, concerning which—you will doubtless have an account later.

Although our chapter is small in numbers, it is our intention to make haste slowly, in the direction of new members. Owing to the relations existing among the fraternities here, "spiking," "bidding" and "rushing" are deemed necessary, although the practice is a deplorable one and has never been favored by our girls.

Before another year rolls around it is hoped that Albion College will have been metamorphosed into "Asbury University," and then a broader scope and an additional impetus will be afforded our fraternity world. May Kappa Alpha Theta lead all others.

RHO.

University of Nebraska, Lincoln, Neb.

It gives us great pleasure to at last greet all Thetas as such. In this, our first letter, it is our desire to give you a little of our history. At the beginning of the year two of our girls were invited to join the Kappa Kappa Gammas, but owing to a previous suggestion by the late Mr. Frank Wheeler, a Sigma Chi, that there was material enough for another ladies' fraternity here, they hesitated. For a long time we faithfully studied Baird, and at last decided on the Kappa Alpha Thetas. But our battle had only just begun. For seven months we waited with only an occasional letter to keep up our spirits. Very cheerful ones came from De Pauw, Worcester, Burlington and Cornell, but the most frequent and encouraging were those received from Kappa chapter.

After having petitioned Kappa chapter to work in our behalf we received a letter from them saying, that one of their number, who was in Omaha, was coming to visit us. In Miss Pratt we found a much needed friend, and with her visit the turning point in our career. Owing to her encouraging letters, and to the untiring efforts of Kappa chapter, through Miss Kate Wilder, we are now in existence as Rho chapter of Kappa Alpha Theta. It was with great rejoicing and enthusiasm that we heard Miss Wilder was coming to initiate us on the seventh of April. The Sigma Chis magnanimously offered us their hall in order that our initiation might be held with proper mystery and terror. Promptly at eight o'clock six girls might have been seen wending their way in a solemn and mysterious manner towards the hall. It was with an imposing show of courage and heroism, which was only equalled by our inner trembling, that we went through the beautiful but solemn rites of the Kappa Alpha Theta initiation.

Now we are in working order, and have laid out work in Emerson. It is too soon to speak of our prospects now, but we hope to compete with the Kappas successfully.

One of the most pleasant of fraternity receptions given this season, was given in our honor April 8th by the Kappas, at the pleasant home of Miss Rae Manley. It is needless to add that we need the best wishes of all our sister chapters.

Alumnæ Letters

WARREN, PA., May 13, 1887.

DEAR THETAS:—In response to a request from the corresponding secretary of Lambda for an Alumnæ letter, I will try and give expression in some sort to the thoughts suggested by the perusal of the last JOURNAL. It was the first I had seen this year, and *perhaps* you can imagine with how much pleasure I read it from cover to cover.

I have been far away from the scene of Lambda's activity all the year, and having the JOURNAL once more in my hands brought up a tide of recollections impossible to describe, and for a moment, I will have to confess, the present was almost insupportable from an intense longing to re-live the past.

I observe a marked improvement in the JOURNAL; there is more of that spirit which inspires every true-hearted Theta, and which will tend to revive all those who might otherwise find their interest flagging.

How gladly would I give every member of our new Chapters a welcoming "grip." It gives one a glow of enthusiasm to think that our mystic circle now embraces the grand breadth of a whole continent. With the careful extension of its sphere of action, to what possibilities may it not attain?

I read with much interest the editorial pro's and con's concerning the admission of Alumnæ of colleges where Chapters exist, and must say they are taken with much sense.

I think the fraternity is to be congratulated upon the returning of the publication of the JOURNAL to Kappa, so well has the promise of the very first number been fulfilled.

At present I am somewhat less than a hundred miles from Mu. I have contemplated a visit there, and hope it may yet hap-

pen, as assurances of a most cordial welcome have been extended to me by Mu's delegate to the convention, whom some of you may have the pleasure of knowing. I can hardly refrain from saying something of the place in which I am stopping.

Warren, not quite a city yet, is charmingly situated on the Allegheny River, and is one of the prettiest places I have ever seen. A novel feature of the place to me is the burning of natural gas in the stoves for fuel, and the substitution of artificial logs with gas burning over them in the open fire places—an innovation which Warner deprecates so much in his Back Log Studies. Warner notwithstanding, we appreciate the absence of ashes and general commotion which the building of fires usually occasion.

This is also an oil region, and while the streets are not literally flowing with oil, the hills on all sides of the town are dotted with oil derricks pointing upward, to show how far downward man has penetrated. One cannot but be impressed with the wealth of this beautiful State.

Hoping I have not taken more than my share of your time and attention, I will close with my most earnest wishes for the JOURNAL's success, and much love to all Thetas.

Yours sincerely,

LILLIAN SANBORN, Lambda, '86.

INDIANAPOLIS, IND., May 12, 1887.

DEAR GIRLS:—It is indeed pleasant to be able to address you through the pages of our JOURNAL. What a blessing the JOURNAL is to all true Thetas, and especially to those who have ceased to be active members. To such it comes as a ray of sunshine, bringing back the dear, old college days, and the Theta sisters scattered far and wide, and reminding them that, though active work in the fraternity is over, the tie of sisterhood remains unbroken.

When I left college last June, I supposed my work as a contributor of the KAPPA ALPHA THETA was over. It seemed as if my connection with the fraternity in the future would be slight. I felt like a waif, a Theta without a Theta home. However, in November, while visiting friends at Bloomington, Ind., I was initiated into Beta Chapter. I have since visited there so much and know the girls so well that I almost feel as if I had always been one of their number. The girls entertain so charmingly that one soon feels at home with them. They are most enthusiastic and energetic workers, too, and stand high in college and in society. In every respect it is a chapter to be proud of.

I also visited Alpha Chapter, and was delighted with the girls. I attended their Hallowe'en party, and enjoyed it hugely. A gentleman, in speaking of our girls, said we had the *creme de la creme* of De Pauw, and as far as I can judge, he told the truth.

Since I have become a Theta I have visited five different Chapters, and find it very pleasant to know so many of our girls. Although I did not attend our last convention, I met many of the delegates who were on their way there—among them "Meadville" and "Kansas," as they were called, and Miss Johnson, of Wooster, whom I had met at the previous convention.

Personals.

ALPHA.

Olive Bayne entertained the Theta girls, chapter and pledged members, at her home May 27.

Ollie Hays now wears the "black and gold," and will be a valuable acquisition to the chapter next year.

Anna Odm has returned to her home in Barton Harbor, Mich., on account of the illness of her mother.

Theta won for herself another pledged member, Laura Vanatta, who was thoroughly "spiked" by the other fraternity.

Ella Vickery left for her home in Evansville, Ind., May 25, to spend her Senior vacation, but will be back with us again Commencement.

BETA.

Nellie Scull did not return this term.

Ella and Berta Bond are in college this term.

Ella Rawles visited Juliet Holland at Indianapolis.

Mrs. R. S. Stevenson, of Madison, Dakota, is home on a visit.

Josie Pittman leaves soon to spend the summer in Detroit, Mich.

Josie Miller and Sophia Sheeks went to Indianapolis to hear Booth.

Emma Bain was called home on account of the death of her brother.

Alice Springer, '86, has returned home after spending a very pleasant year teaching.

Pearl Winship left college to spend a few months traveling with her mother in the South.

Louie Morris was compelled to return home on account of ill health. She is greatly missed by Beta.

Temple West and Kate Milner, '86, of Rockport, expect to spend Commencement with the Beta girls.

DELTA.

Mamie Caldwell will go to California this fall.

Mattie Myers will visit among the lakes this summer.

Lizzie Sterling, who was out of school last year, will return next.

Edith Kneeland and Laura McCulloch, '87, will teach next year.

Allie Watson, '87, will spend a part of the summer at Chautauqua.

Madge Sudduth, '80, returned last week from an extended tour in Europe.

Helen Simpson, formerly a Kappa Alpha Theta at I. W. U., graduated at the Ladies' Seminary at Jacksonville this spring.

Sadie Patton, Rilla Sikes, Maude Pillsbury, Alice Chenowith and Sarah Van Pelt, all of '86, were back Commencement week greeting sisters and friends.

EPSILON.

Janet Henderson, formerly of '88, is home from Lake Erie Seminary, Painesville, Ohio.

Miss Mary Beall Ewing, of Yonkers, N. Y., sister of Maria Ewing, '82, is the guest of Jennie Connell, '89.

Lenora Hanna, '85, Professor of Monticello Seminary, Godfrey, Ill., will spend the summer with her relatives and friends in Wooster.

Misses Ella Kirtland, '84, of Rochester, Ind., and Jennie Wycoff, formerly of '87, were the guests of Anna Slemmons, '87, during Commencement season.

Cards are out announcing the marriage of Mr. Edgar Work, '84, to Miss Ella Wilson, '84, of Grafton, W. Va. They will make their future home in Van Wert, O., Rev. Mr. Work having received a call from the Presbyterian church of that city.

KAPPA.

Alice Pettee now makes her home in Kansas City.

Maud Thrasher is just recovering from a long illness.

Cora Pierson, '84, has been spending some weeks in Lawrence.

Ella Ropes, '87, will spend the summer at her home in Topeka.

Luella Moore, '87, will visit friends in the East before returning to her home in Texas.

Sydney Daily has been absent from her classes some time on account of poor health.

Alice Bartell, '83, will visit with her sisters and the Theta girls during Commencement.

Jean Anderson has been obliged to return to her home in Atchison on account of poor health.

Harrie Cook will visit in the East next summer, and enter Mt. Holyoke at the beginning of the fall term.

Fannie Pratt, who has been spending the winter in Omaha, will hereafter make her home in Kansas City.

Kate Rideneour, '84, will spend Commencement with Lawrence friends. She will sail for Europe some time in June.

Kate Wilder spent several days in Omaha on her return from Lincoln. She expresses herself as greatly pleased with the chapter she initiated at Lincoln.

Agnes Emery, '85, has been appointed Assistant Professor of Greek for the coming year in the place of Prof. Sterling, who will spend the year in Europe.

Mrs. Carrie Fletcher recently spent a week in Lawrence, the guest of Mrs. Albert Lewis. Mrs. Lewis, better known to the Theta girls as Bertie Niesley, gave a delightful tea-party to her Theta sisters in Mrs. Fletcher's honor.

LAMBDA.

Mollie Mills, '85, is teaching at Philadelphia.

Julia Platt is studying at the Harvard Annex.

Clara Colburne, '88, is teaching, but will be with us again next year.

Clara Pease occupies the Chair of Mathematics at Bradford Academy, Bradford, Mass.

Eliza Isham, '86, has been appointed Superintendent of Public Schools at St. George, Vt.

Lucia Barney and Mattie Wheeler, both of '89, who have been teaching, again occupy their accustomed places in Lambda hall.

Jean Christie, '86, was married to George Chandler, January 19, 1887. Her present home is at Helena, Montana. Lambda hurls old shoes after her with many hearty good wishes.

Bess Howe and Emily Colburn, of '90, became so interested in unraveling the Grecian mysteries of Kappa Alpha Theta, that they decided to push their explorations further yet. Accordingly they have made up their preparatory work during the year and are now doing the regular class work in Greek. We call four years' work in one pretty good for "Fresh."

NU.

Belle Milder, '86, spent a few days among old friends in Hanover.

Laura Palmer has been chosen as instructor in music at Hanover College.

Crissie Gilchrist, '85, will spend the vacation in Hanover, and return to Del Norte College in the autumn.

Lida M. Hunt, one of Nu's charter members, will be married on May 16th, to Joe R. Matthews. Mr. and Mrs. Matthews will make their home in Madison, so we will still be able to call the roll with a charter member as an active as well as resident member.

PI.

Myrtle E. Graves made a short visit with friends in Marshall.

Miss Annie E. Stevens, '87, visited friends at Ann Arbor June 20.

Gertrude Allen, '84, was elected alumni editor of the *Plirad* for the coming year.

Zua Thomas, '90, now wears a beautiful new Theta pin, set with opals and pearls.

Emma L. Southworth, '86, will retain her position as teacher in the Albion High School.

E. May Moses, '90, will spend the summer vacation at her home, in Seneca Falls, N. Y.

The literary editorship of the *Plirad*, for the year 1888, was given to Miss Olive B. Hull, '89.

M. Maud Beard, '89, was given the position of scientific editor on the new editorial staff of the *Plirad*.

RHO.

Gertrude Laws, '90, will spend the summer months in Colorado.

Elizabeth Bonnell, '89, will spend the summer at her home, in Lincoln, Neb.

Dena Loomis, '89, and Christine Childs, '90, camped at Crete during the annual Chautauqua Assembly.

The girls of Rho chapter were made happy by a visit from Mrs. Anna Holman Burton, Alpha, a short time before Commencement.

Minnie Latta, '88, is looking forward to her visit in the East this summer more anxiously than heretofore, hoping in her travels to meet members from other chapters of Kappa Alpha Theta.

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